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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/834,599	04/12/2001	Adam D. Sah	004055.P010	4413
26874	7590	01/24/2006	EXAMINER	
FROST BROWN TODD, LLC 2200 PNC CENTER 201 E. FIFTH STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202			KIM, CHONG R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2623	

DATE MAILED: 01/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/834,599	Applicant(s) SAH, ADAM D.	
	Examiner Charles Kim	Art Unit 2623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 November 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 20-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 22,23,31 and 33 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 20,21,24-30,32 and 34-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 April 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/10/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment and Arguments

1. Applicant's amendment filed on November 10, 2005 has been entered and made of record.
2. In view of applicant's amendment, the objection to the title is withdrawn.
3. In view of applicant's amendment, the claim objects are withdrawn.
4. In view of applicant's amendment, the 112 first paragraph rejections are withdrawn.
5. Applicant's arguments have been fully considered, but they are not deemed to be persuasive for at least the following reasons.

Applicant's argue (page 9) that their claimed invention differs from the prior art because "Lyons et al. fails to teach a hierarchical arrangement of such interest values as recited in each of the present independent claims." The Examiner disagrees. Lyons explains that an image of interest is identified by referencing a set of images stored in memory (interest definition memory) ranked according to a set of predetermined criteria (paragraph 32). The ranked images are interpreted as being analogous to the "hierarchical list of interest values" because the ranks are hierarchical and are based on a set of predetermined criteria (paragraphs 27-31) that are determined from characteristics of views corresponding to the captured images. Note that the claims do not specify the details of the hierarchical list of interest values nor does it describe how the image of interest is selected based on the list. Thus, in view of the broadest reasonable interpretation of the claims, Lyons appears to be applicable to at least claims 20 and 37, as amended.

Claim Objections

6. Claim 33 is objected to because of grammatical errors. It appears that the applicant intended the phrase “the act of act of” in line 4, to read “the act of”. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. Claims 20, 21, 24, 25, 27-29, 36-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lyons et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0067258 (“Lyons”).

Referring to claim 20, Lyons discloses a method for providing images to a user, the method comprising:

- a. periodically capturing a plurality of images with a plurality of cameras (114, 116), wherein the plurality of cameras are located at a camera site (104), wherein each of the captured images provides a corresponding view of the camera site (page 2, paragraphs 21-23);
- b. transmitting at least a portion of the captured images to a server (102a) [page 2, paragraph 24];

Art Unit: 2623

c. processing the captured images, wherein the act of processing comprises identifying one or more images of interest among the captured images, wherein the act of identifying one or more images of interest comprises referencing an interest definition memory, wherein the interest definition memory comprises a hierarchical list of interest values for characteristics of views corresponding to captured images (page 2, paragraphs 26-32); and

d. periodically transmitting image data to a user's system, wherein the periodically transmitted image data comprises one or more of the images of interest (paragraph 32).

Referring to claim 21, Lyons further discloses that the act of identifying one or more images of interest comprises detecting motion of a moving object within the one or more views corresponding to the processed images (paragraphs 27-29).

Referring to claim 24, Lyons further discloses that the act of detecting motion of the moving object is performed by a motion detector (110) [paragraph 22].

Referring to claim 25, Lyons further discloses that the moving object is a person (paragraph 22).

Referring to claim 27, Lyons further discloses that the act of processing is performed by a camera management system located at the camera site (figure 1).

Referring to claim 28, Lyons further discloses that the at least a portion of the captured images transmitted to the server consists essentially of the one or more identified images of interest (paragraph 26).

Referring to claim 29, Lyons further discloses that the Internet is used for periodically transmitting image data to the user's system (page 2, paragraph 25).

Referring to claim 36, Lyons further discloses a system configured to perform the method of claim 20 (figure 1).

Referring to claim 37, Lyons discloses a method for providing images to a user, the method comprising:

- a. periodically capturing a plurality of images with a plurality of cameras (114, 116), wherein the plurality of cameras are located at a camera site (104), wherein each of the captured images provides a corresponding view of the camera site (page 2, paragraphs 21-23);
- b. periodically transmitting at least a portion of the captured images to a server (102a) [page 2, paragraph 24];
- c. processing the captured images, wherein the act of processing comprises identifying one or more images of interest among the captured images, wherein the act of identifying one or more images of interest comprises referencing an interest definition memory, wherein the interest definition memory comprises a hierarchical list of interest values for characteristics of views corresponding to captured images (page 2, paragraphs 26-32), wherein one of the characteristics comprises the presence of movement within a given view (page 2, paragraphs 27-29); and
- d. periodically transmitting image data to a user's system, wherein the periodically transmitted image data comprises one or more of the images of interest (paragraph 32).

Referring to claim 38, Lyons further discloses a system configured to perform the method of claim 37 (figure 1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 26, 30, 32, 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lyons et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0067258 ("Lyons").

Referring to claim 26, Lyons does not explicitly disclose that the moving object moves from a first view of the views to a second view of the views. However, Lyons is concerned with detecting the presence of an unauthorized intruder (page 2, paragraph 22). The Examiner notes that it would have been obvious for an intruder to move from a first view to a second view (figure 1) within the residence, since an person intruding a house usually does not stay in one room/location. Therefore, it would have been obvious for Lyons' moving object to move from a first view to a second view. Consequently, Lyons' method would further transmit the image corresponding to the first view having the moving object and the image corresponding to the second view having the moving object (pages 2-3, paragraph 27. Note that only the video image data from cameras that trigger motion detection is transmitted).

Referring to claim 30, see the rejection of at least claim 26 above. As noted above, it would have been obvious for Lyons' moving object to move from a first view to a second view. Consequently, Lyons' method would identify a first image of interest and a second image of interest, wherein the view corresponding to the first image of interest is different from the view corresponding to the second image of interest such that the view corresponding to the image of

Art Unit: 2623

interest changes, wherein the act of periodically transmitting image data to a user's system further comprises transmitting the first and second image of the interest to the user's system (pages 2-3, paragraphs 27 and 34. Note that a set of n frames are transmitted from cameras that trigger motion detection).

Referring to claim 32, Lyons further discloses the steps of transmitting a first image of interest to the user's system, and transmitting a second image of interest to the user's system, wherein the second image of interest is different from the first image of interest, wherein the act of transmitting the second image of interest is performed after a predetermined minimum amount of time has expired (page 3, paragraphs 32-34).

Referring to claim 39, Lyons discloses a system for providing images to a user, the system comprising:

- a. a plurality of cameras (114, 116), wherein each of the cameras is operable to periodically capture images, wherein each of the captured images provides a corresponding view (page 2, paragraphs 21-23);
- b. an image selection module (130), wherein the image selection module comprises an interest definition memory, wherein the interest definition memory comprises a hierarchical list of interest values for characteristics of views corresponding to images captured by the cameras, wherein the characteristics include motion within the views, wherein the image selection module is configured to select images of interest from the images captured by the cameras based on an amount of motion within the views corresponding to the captured images, wherein the selection of images of interest by the image selection module is performed in accordance with the hierarchical list of interest values (page 2, paragraphs 26-32); and

c. a server (102a), wherein the server is configured to receive images captured by the cameras, wherein the server is further configured to periodically transmit image data to a user, wherein the image data transmitted to the user comprises first and second images of interest selected by the image selection module (paragraph 32).

Lyons does not explicitly disclose that the first and second images of interest are captured by separate cameras of the plurality of cameras. However, it would have been obvious for Lyons' moving object to move from a first view of a first camera to a second view of a second camera, as noted above (claim 26). Thus, the first and second images of interest would have been captured by separate cameras of the plurality of cameras because only the video image data from cameras that trigger motion detection is transmitted (pages 2-3, paragraph 27).

9. Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Lyons et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0067258 ("Lyons") and Scorse et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,128,776 ("Scorse").

Referring to claim 34, Lyons does not explicitly disclose the step of re-transmitting an image that has been previously transmitted to the user's system. However, this feature was exceedingly well known in the art. For example, Scorse discloses the step of periodically transmitting image data to a user's system comprising re-transmitting an image that has been previously transmitted to the user's system (abstract).

Lyons and Scorse are combinable because they are both concerned with selectively transmitting image data to a user. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method of Lyons so that it re-transmits the image

Art Unit: 2623

data, as taught by Scorse. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to ensure that the user receives the image data, thereby enhancing the reliability of the imaging system. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Lyons with Scorse to obtain the invention as specified in claim 34.

10. Claim 35 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Lyons et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0067258 ("Lyons") and Halliday et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,880,740 ("Halliday").

Referring to claim 35, Lyons does not explicitly disclose that an image identifier is transmitted in lieu of transmitting an image. However, this feature was exceedingly well known in the art. For example, Halliday discloses the step of transmitting an image identifier in lieu of transmitting an image (col. 8, lines 29-34).

Lyons and Halliday are combinable because they are both concerned with the transmission of images. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the transmitting step of Lyons in view of Halliday. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to reduce the transmission bandwidth, thereby enhancing the efficiency of the image transmission process. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Lyons with Halliday to obtain the invention as specified in claim 35.

Allowable Subject Matter

11. Claims 22-23, 31, 33 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

12. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

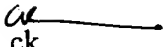
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

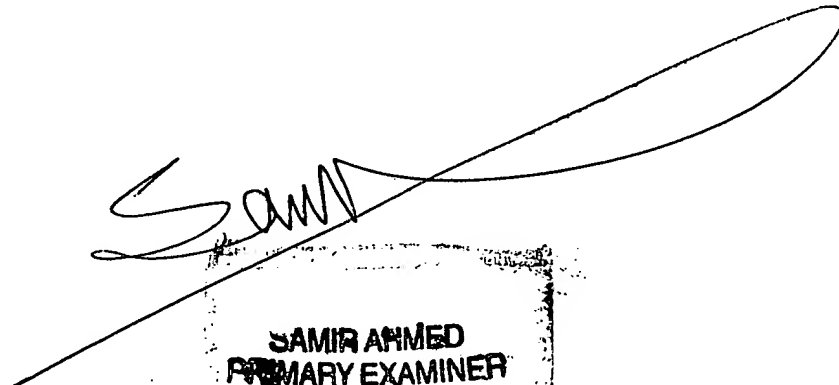
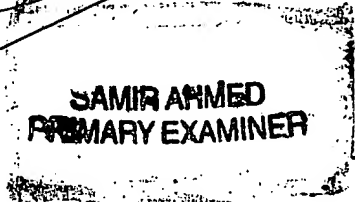
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles Kim whose telephone number is 571-272-7421. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon thru Thurs 8:30am to 6pm and alternating Fri 9:30am to 6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jingge Wu can be reached on 571-272-7429. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-272-8300.

Art Unit: 2623

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


ck
January 11, 2006



SAMI AHMED
PRIMARY EXAMINER